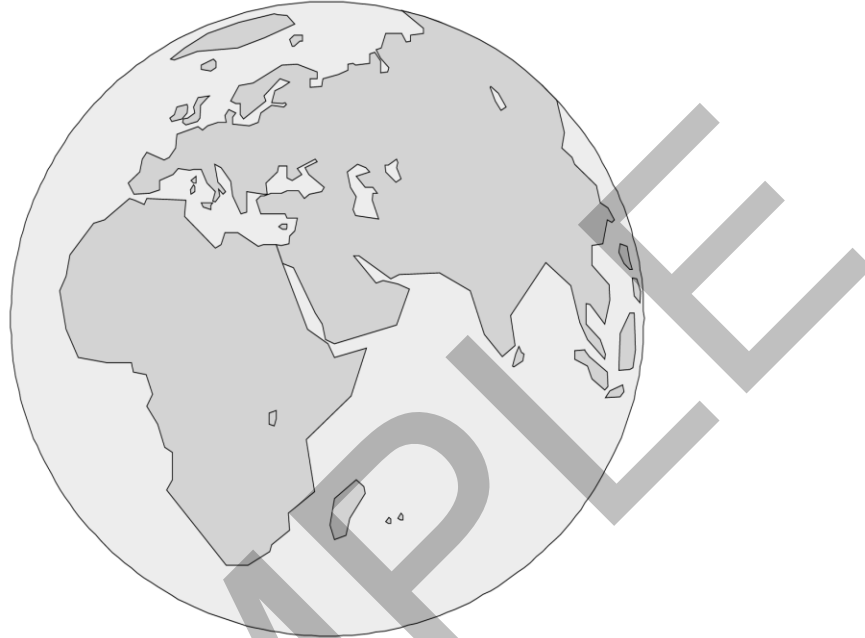


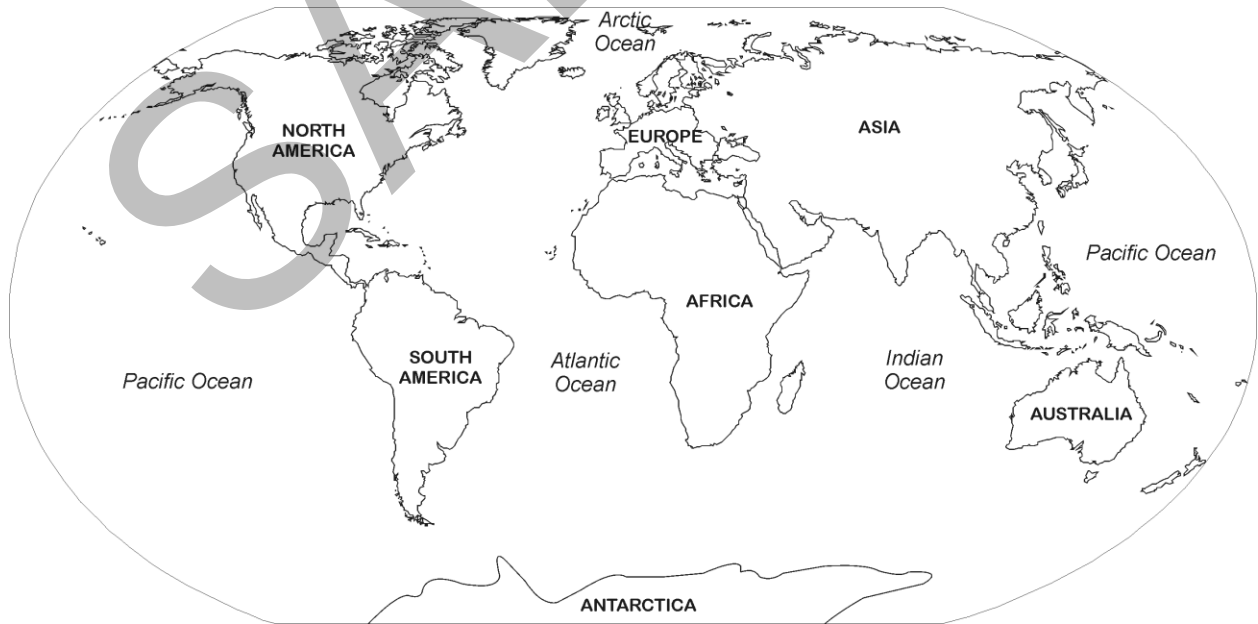
All About Maps: Unit One

Types of Maps

A round map of the earth is called a globe.



Have you ever tried to cut open and flatten a deflated ball? That is why most world maps portray the earth as “flat.” We can’t see all the sides of a round ball when all we have to look at is a flat piece of paper. So, scientists found a way to draw the world in a stretched out, flat picture like this one.



Continents are very large areas of land on the earth. The continent on which you live is called _____.

Study the map of the world and answer the questions.

1. How many continents are there? _____
2. Which continent is the largest? _____
3. Which continent is the smallest? _____
4. Which ocean is found between Africa and South America? _____
5. Which ocean is found between South America and Australia? _____

An atlas is a book that is a collection of maps. One of the most common types of atlases in the United States shows a detailed road map of the major roads that cross each state.

Cardinal Directions

It is important for every person to know in which direction he is moving. Just think of what the pilot of an airplane, a seafarer, or a hiker in the mountains would do if they could not determine direction. Yes, they would all get lost and end up in the wrong places.

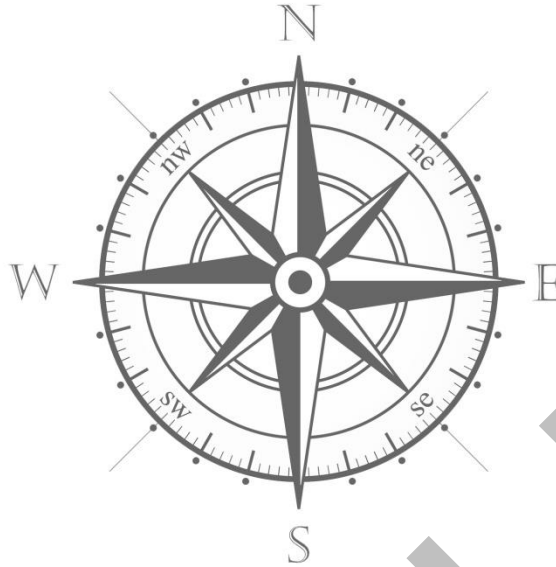
Today, we are going to do FIELDWORK. We are going to go outside and find where the sun rose today.

Now, stretch out both arms sideways. Turn so that your RIGHT HAND points in the direction where the sun ROSE.

1. What do you think this direction is called? (EAST)
2. The direction on your LEFT is called WEST.

But there are two other important directions to find if you stand like that: The direction IN WHICH you are FACING is NORTH, and the direction BEHIND you is SOUTH.

Most maps that you see have a special symbol on them to show you what direction you'll find things on the map. This symbol is called a compass rose, and it looks like this.



The N stands for North, the S stands for South, the E stands for East, and the W stands for West. Now look at the map below. Find the compass rose in the corner. Then read the questions and fill in the answers.



Suppose you are standing on the hill. In which direction would you find the sports field?

Now imagine you are at the clubhouse. In which direction is the sports field?

Activity:

Parent note: Before class, chose one point (Point A) in your backyard or in the largest room of your house. Walk through the route described below and hide a prize at the end of the journey. Feel free to adapt the activity to fit the area you are working with. Use the activity to wrap up the lesson time. Explain to your student what you want him or her to do and that there will be a special prize at the end. Have fun!

1. Start at Point A.
2. Determine North.
3. Take 14 steps West.
4. Take 2 steps South.
5. Take 20 steps East.

SAMPLE

All About Maps: Unit One

Symbols, Plans, and Keys

We can tell stories with symbols or pictures. Have you ever seen a story that looked like this?

The  loves his .

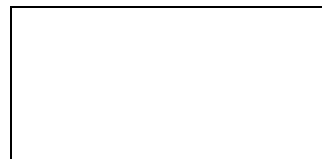
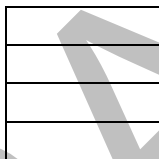
Because of the pictures, you know that the sentence says, “The dog loves his bone.”

Activity:

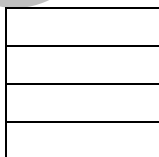
Pictures are used instead of words, and they tell you something. Now write your own story about your favorite animal. Use pictures as symbols instead of some of the words.

In the story you just wrote, you probably used pictures that looked like what you were talking about, just like we used a picture of a dog and a bone in our first sentence. When we draw maps, we need to use symbols, too. Maps usually show a big area in a much smaller place. Imagine if you wanted to draw a picture of your living room or bedroom. Would you want to draw every single book on your bookshelf or every detail of your couch? Of course not! That would take forever.

Instead, you might draw a box for the bookcase and a rectangle for the couch so they look like this:



There is one more thing your map will need. It’s called a key. Keys let other people know what your pictures mean. It’s like giving them the answer to a secret code! Your key for your map could look like this:



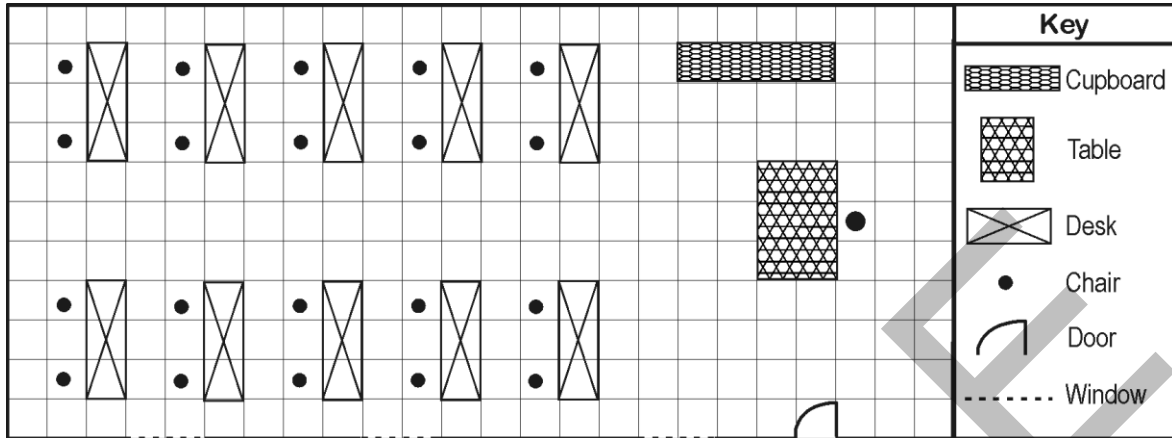
Bookcase



Couch

Look at the map of the library below. Find the symbol for the desk in the key on the right. Now look at the map. How many desks are in the library? _____
What is the symbol for a table? How many tables are in the library? _____

What is the symbol for a chair? How many chairs can you find in the library? _____



Another kind of a map key could look like this:

- Blue = water
- Green or brown = land
- White = snow or ice

Look at the map of the world below. Is our world made up of mostly land, snow, and ice, or water? _____



We're going to look at one more type of map. You've probably seen maps like this before when your family drives to some place far away.



Most of the time, when you see blue on a map, it means water. So in this map, we can see the ocean, the lakes, and the rivers are all in blue. There are dark lines that show the borders of states and countries. The major roads are drawn in orange and have symbols with numbers in them that tell you what the number of the road is.